

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending, with Claims 1 and 7 amended by the present amendment.

In the Official Action, the Abstract was objected to; Claims 1-3 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 4-6 and 10-12 were allowed; and Claims 1-3 and 7-9 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

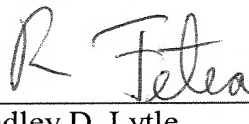
Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter.

The Abstract is amended as requested in the Official Action. Claims 1 and 7 are amended in response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. No new matter is added.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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